

## IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A bone ~~nail portion securing device adapted to be received within a bone cavity, the device including~~ at least one expansion portion capable of being radially expanded under an applied compressive force applied by a nose portion and an opposing portion coupled via a tie rod, the at least one expansion portion having at least one portion, at least one characteristic of which is selected to be different to a corresponding at least one characteristic of at least one other portion of the expansion portion.

2. (Currently Amended) A bone ~~nail portion securing device~~ according to claim 1, wherein the at least one characteristic comprises a thickness and/or width of the at least one portion and the at least one other portion.

3. (Currently Amended) A bone ~~nail portion securing device~~ according to claim 1, wherein the expansion portion comprises at least one elongate portion having a pair of elongate slots on either side thereof.

4. (Currently Amended) A bone ~~nail portion securing device~~ according to claim 1, wherein the at least one portion comprises a first end of the at least one elongate portion and a second end of at least one elongate portion.

5. (Currently Amended) A bone ~~nail portion securing device~~ according to claim 4, wherein the at least one other portion comprises a mid portion of the elongate portion forming a remainder of the elongate portion.

6. (Currently Amended) A bone ~~nail~~portion-securing device according to claim 4, wherein the first end and/or second end of the elongate portion is thinner or thicker and/or narrower or broader than an adjacent portion of the at least one elongate portion.

7. (Currently Amended) A bone ~~nail~~portion-securing device according to claim 1, wherein the at least one portion further comprises a first end of at least one slot and a second end of at least one slot.

8. (Currently Amended) A bone ~~nail~~portion-securing device according to claim 7, wherein the at least one other portion comprises a mid portion of the slot forming a remainder of the slot.

9. (Currently Amended) A bone ~~nail~~portion-securing device according to claim 1, wherein the first end and/or the second end of at least one slot is broader than an adjacent portion of the at least one slot.

10. (Currently Amended) A bone ~~nail~~securing device adapted to be received within a bone cavity, the device including at least one expansion portion capable of being radially expanded under an applied compressive force applied by a nose portion and an opposing portion coupled via a tie rod, wherein the at least one expansion portion is shaped to elastically bow outwards when a compressive force is applied axially to the expansion portion.

11. (Currently Amended) A bone ~~nailsecuring device~~ adapted to be received within a bone cavity, the device including at least one expansion portion capable of being radially expanded under an ~~applied compressive force applied by a nose portion and an opposing~~ portion coupled via a tie rod, wherein the at least one expansion portion comprises at least one longitudinal portion fixed at either end to means which engage a compression coupling, wherein a profile of the at least one longitudinal portion is narrowed at one or both ends of the at least one longitudinal portion.

12. (Currently Amended) A bone ~~nailportion-securing device~~ according to claim 11, wherein a plurality of longitudinal portions substantially equidistant spaced around a circumference of the expansion ~~module-portion~~ portion are provided.

13. (Currently Amended) A bone ~~nailportion-securing device~~ according to claim 11, wherein the longitudinal portion has a stepped or curved profile.

14. (Currently Amended) A bone ~~nailportion-securing device~~ according to claim 11, wherein the outer surface of the longitudinal portion is serrated to provide grip with the inner surface of a bone.

15. (Currently Amended) A bone ~~nailportion-securing device adapted to be received within a bone cavity, the device~~ including at least one expansion portion capable of being radially expanded under an ~~applied compressive force applied by a nose portion and an~~ opposing portion coupled via a tie rod, wherein the at least one expansion portion includes at least one slot, the slot having at least one portion having a width greater than a width of

a remainder of the at least one slot.

16. (Currently Amended) A bone ~~nailportion-securing device~~ according to claim 15, wherein at least one portion and the remainder of the slot are longitudinally displaced.

17. (Currently Amended) A bone ~~nailportion-securing device~~ according to claim 15, wherein ~~the~~/each expansion portion includes a plurality of elongate slots.

18. (Currently Amended) A bone ~~nailportion-securing device~~ according to claim 15, wherein ~~the~~/each slot includes first and second wider portions at first and second ends of the slot.

19. (Currently Amended) A bone ~~nailportion-securing device~~ according to claim 18, wherein the remainder of the slot is substantially of a uniform width.

20. (Withdrawn) A bone portion securing device comprising at least two expansion modules, said expansion module(s) being of substantially cylindrical unitary construction including a plurality of substantially longitudinal portions which, in use, are substantially lateral to a bone wall and which bow elastically outward when a compressive force is applied axially to the expansion module; at least one compression coupling, said compression coupling including compressive attachment means to engage the expansion module(s) in a fixed position with respect to the compression coupling and being capable of transferring a compressive force; and at least one compression means, said compression means being arranged to transfer a force, such as a rotational force, applied to at least one

portion of a surface of the compression means to a compressive force applied to the at least one compression coupling.

21. (Withdrawn) A bone portion securing device according to claim 20, wherein the plurality of longitudinal portions are substantially equidistantly spaced around a circumference of the expansion module(s) and are separated from each other by an elongate slot (expansion apertures).

22. (Withdrawn) A bone portion securing device according to claim 20, wherein the/each elongate slot have chamfered edges.

23. (Withdrawn) A bone portion securing device according to claim 20, wherein one or both ends of the/each slot are rounded in longitudinal cross-section.

24. (Withdrawn) A bone portion securing device according to claim 20, wherein the longitudinal portions are loaded by having a stepped or curved surface profile.

25. (Withdrawn) A bone portion securing device according to claim 20, wherein the compressive attachment means of the compression coupling is in the form of a self-locking ratchet.

26. (Withdrawn) A bone portion securing device according to claim 20, wherein the attachment means includes at least two anti-rotation grooves which engage a portion of an expansion module such that the expansion module cannot rotate with respect to the

compression coupling.

27. (Currently Amended) A bone ~~nailportion-securing device~~ according to ~~any~~ claim 1, wherein the expansion ~~module-portion~~ is made of a stiffly resilient plastics material, titanium or titanium alloy.

28. (Currently Amended) An expansion module for use as a portion of a bone ~~nailportion securing device adapted to be received within a bone cavity~~, the module including at least one expansion portion capable of being radially expanded under an applied compressive force applied by a nose portion and an opposing portion coupled via a tie rod, the at least one expansion portion having at least one portion, at least one characteristic of which is selected to be different to a corresponding at least one characteristic of at least one other portion of the expansion portion.